

Issue NE-CW2803, released July 14, 2003, by the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA . For more information contact us at: 100 Centennial Mall North, Suite 298, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-437-5541 or e-mail at nass-ne@nass.usda.gov. Homepage - <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 13, 2003, seasonal temperatures and limited rainfall permitted rapid wheat harvest and continued the need for irrigation, according to USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Other producer activities included harvesting alfalfa and oats for grain. Grasshoppers and other pests continue to be a source of producer concern.

Weather Summary: Temperatures averaged below normals for the week but ranged from 3 degrees above to 4 degrees below normals. Precipitation was light statewide with amounts generally less than an inch.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:
Nebraska, Week Ending July 13, 2003

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Topsoil				
Very Short	6	1	58	21
Short	31	30	28	25
Adequate	62	64	14	51
Surplus	1	5	0	3
Subsoil				
Very Short	11	10	58	22
Short	38	35	31	25
Adequate	51	53	11	51
Surplus	0	2	0	2
Days Suitable	6.1	6.4	6.7	5.7

Field Crops Report: Corn condition rated 1 percent very poor, 2 poor, 19 fair, 52 good, and 26 excellent, above last year and average. Irrigated corn rated 82 percent good and excellent while dryland rated 73. Fields were 12 percent silked, behind last year at 28 percent and average at 24.

Soybean condition rated 2 percent poor, 24 fair, 60 good, and 14 excellent, above last year and average. Fifteen percent of the fields were blooming, behind last year at 45 and average at 35.

Oat condition rated 2 percent poor, 17 fair, 64 good, and 17 excellent, well above last year and average. Harvest for grain progressed to 23 percent combined, behind 41 last year and 27 average.

Sorghum condition rated 1 percent very poor, 3 poor, 32 fair, 54 good, and 10 excellent, above last year and average. One percent of the acreage was headed, near last year at 2 and average at 3.

Wheat fields were 79 percent ripe, well behind last year at 93 but the same as average. Harvest made excellent progress with 47 percent completed, but remained behind last year at 78 and average at 59.

Dry bean condition rated 2 percent very poor, 7 poor, 29 fair, 56 good, and 6 excellent. Twenty-one percent of the fields were blooming, ahead of last year at 15 and average at 16.

Alfalfa condition rated 1 percent very poor, 5 poor, 23 fair, 53 good, and 18 excellent, above last year and average. Second cutting activities progressed to 59 percent harvested, behind last year at 70 but the same as average. Wild hay condition rated 2 percent very poor, 6 poor, 22 fair, 57 good, and 13 excellent.

Crop Progress : Nebraska, Week Ending July 13, 2003

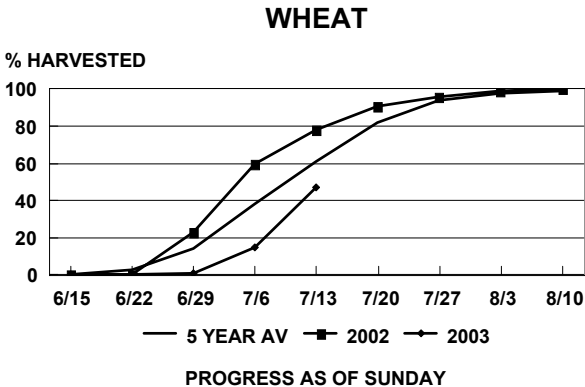
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average
Percent				
Corn Silked	12	1	28	24
Soybeans Blooming	15	2	45	35
Oats Harvested	23	3	41	27
Sorghum Headed	1	0	2	3
Wheat Ripe	79	40	93	79
Wheat Harvested	47	15	78	59
Alfalfa 2 nd Cutting	59	29	70	59

Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 13, 2003

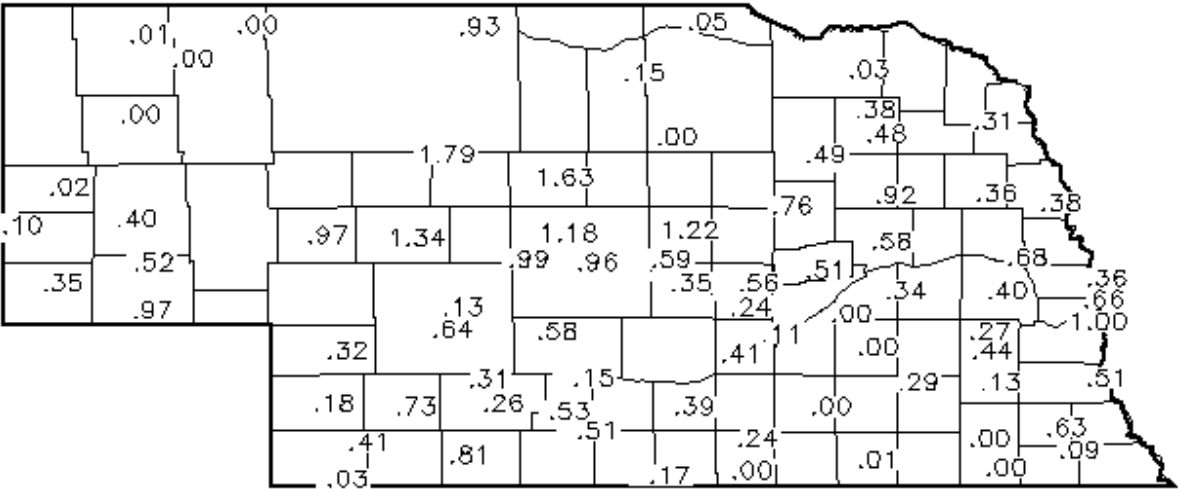
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	1	2	19	52	26
Soybean	0	2	24	60	14
Oat	0	2	17	64	17
Sorghum	1	3	32	54	10
Dry Bean	2	7	29	56	6
Alfalfa	1	5	23	53	18
Wild Hay	2	6	22	57	13

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition rated 5 percent very poor, 11 poor, 31 fair, 48 good, and 5 excellent. Pastures continue to provide good grazing potential but are showing signs of stress in some areas.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts_cur.htm



Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending July 13, 2003



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - July 13, 2003

Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.26	.56	.45	.70	.34	.37	.32	.14
Total since April 1	7.75	12.35	13.84	14.47	13.08	11.64	12.70	14.52
Normal since April 1	8.73	10.34	12.02	11.31	12.48	10.03	11.01	12.63
Total as % of normal	88%	120%	115%	128%	104%	115%	115%	115%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska,
Week Ending Sunday, July 13, 2003

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	98	51	72	-1	140	1034	1171
	Scottsbluff	104	54	76	+3	158	1212	1170
	Sidney	100	52	74	+1	149	1092	1200
NC	Ainsworth	90	55	71	-4	143	1156	1295
	Arthur	94	55	72	-2	150	1084	1264
	O'Neill	90	52	71	-4	146	1146	1361
NE	Concord	86	55	71	-4	150	1187	1398
	Elgin	86	56	72	-4	156	1194	1399
	West Point	86	55	73	-4	163	1263	1484
C	Grand Island	90	55	74	-2	159	1283	1419
	Lexington	93	59	76	0	170	1320	1393
	Ord	88	55	73	-3	159	1219	1406
EC	Lincoln	94	58	78	0	186	1398	1562
	Central City	99	53	74	-2	160	1306	1443
	Mead	93	55	75	-3	170	1328	1539
SW	Champion	99	55	76	+1	154	1235	1300
	North Platte	95	52	73	-2	151	1238	1314
	Curtis	95	58	77	+1	165	1330	1339
SC	Arapahoe	94	49	72	-3	145	1086	1258
	Minden	92	57	75	-1	163	1323	1398
	Red Cloud	99	58	77	+1	170	1351	1437
SE	Beatrice	95	55	78	-1	176	1387	1562
	Clay Center	93	52	75	-2	162	1289	1434
	Nemaha	96	59	79	+1	187	1480	1592

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

